

**POLICY**

Information on state and court wards are released only according to law and policy (see SRM 131, Confidentiality - Children's Services).

**PROCEDURE**

For protocol regarding media interviews contact the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Communications at (517) 373-7394.

Requests to interview youth can only be granted by the director of the Department of Human Services. Such requests must be sent to the director through the Office of Communications (517) 373-7394.

When a request for information is received, the JJS is to assess whether provision of the information will contribute positively to the youth's rehabilitation effort.

**Requests for  
Information  
from the Office  
of the Children's  
Ombudsman**

The Department of Human Services may receive requests for information on delinquent youth. In order to ensure that such requests fall within the standards established by Michigan law, all requests for information from the Office Children's Ombudsman must be sent to the DHS, Office of Family Advocate, for review and approval.

The request must be accompanied by the local office's assessment of whether release of the information is in the best interest of the youth. The assessment is an evaluation of relevant case factors formulated by the JJS, supervisor and other individuals pertinent to the case.

See also SRM 131, Confidentiality - Children's Services and SRM 132, Response to the Office of Children's Ombudsman.

**HIV/AIDS  
Confidentiality  
Protocol**

See SRM 131, Confidentiality - HIV/AIDS/ARC or Serious Communicable Disease Records.